



## Relational Hospitality

August 2015

**H**ave you ever thought about how many ways we are inviting people into our lives these days? We invite them to personally connect with us through Facebook, we invite them to view our pictures on Instagram, we invite them to share our thoughts, all 160 characters, on Twitter. We receive invitations to join people in a cause or movement, maybe at work or over the internet. Even our mobile phones are a means in which we invite one another through WhatsApp and Facetime. With all the digital devices we have today, people's lives become an open invitation. Certainly our technological advances have bridged the gap of distance and time in communicating with one another. They provide opportunities to be closer in some ways, but how close are we because of them? Do we know about one another's real needs, hurts, and troubles? Or could it be that these high-speed ways of communication and instant information make us think we are close, while actually keeping us at a distance and causing us to remain isolated from each other?

God designed us to be personally interactive creatures. Our greatest joy and fulfillment in life comes when our lives are like invitations to the people around us. We learn to bless them by what God has blessed us with, extending to them patience, mercy, and grace in practical ways. The Christians of the first century called this hospitality. The practice of hospitality means that you welcome people into your life by inviting them into your sphere of life. It means more than passing on information or posting things about yourself. It is where you share your blessings with them. We often think of hospitality in respect to bringing people into our homes... and rightfully so. But a house is only a non-living structure. Though it may have architectural beauty, it is the people in it that make it personal and influential. That is why hospitality toward people can and should be extended beyond our homes.



The workplace is in need of people being hospitable to one another. You may say, "I have no time for that at work!" Maybe you do and don't realize it. We have seen Christians show hospitality in their workplace in creative ways. Maybe it means you invite a coworker to join you at lunch during your meal break. This is bringing them into your sphere of blessing. (And by the way... you could offer to pay for their meal.) We know other Christians who invite coworkers into their prayer life. You may not invite them to pray necessarily, but get to know your coworkers and find out about their needs and how you can pray for them or help them in a practical way. You may want to follow up with the person for whom you are praying and inquire how God is answering your prayers for them.

We recently visited a group of Christians in AA/USAir in Charlotte, NC. The event we attended had to do with celebrating the merging of airlines, which can be painful and confusing to people. They had set up exhibits that represented the different airlines that merged and eventually became American Airlines. What impressed us was not so much the exhibits, but how these Christians were involved in the lives of their coworkers. They had made a concerted effort to find out how they could pray for them both personally and professionally. We even overheard coworkers thanking the organizers for their personal concern and prayers. It didn't take us long to realize how these Christians were showing hospitality to their coworkers in creative ways. (PMC)

*"Seek to show hospitality... Above all, keep your love for one another fervent... Show hospitality to one another without complaining."*

(Romans 12:13; 1 Peter 4:8,9)

The FCAP Staff

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**Fellowship of Christian Airline Personnel**

[www.fcap.org](http://www.fcap.org)

# THE FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN AIRLINE PERSONNEL

## History:

The ministry of FCAP began in 1971 and was incorporated in 1973 when 50 people from eight different airlines in the United States and Canada met to consider how God wanted them to serve Christ in and through the airline industry. Since that time, the ministry of FCAP has spread in over 90 areas of the world. We do not have a membership or dues; rather we are a fellowship among Christians in the airline industry worldwide that share a common commitment and focus.



## Perspective & Focus:

Most people look at work primarily as a source of income. Some even view it as a curse imposed on them as punishment from God. *The Fellowship of Christian Airline Personnel* believes that God places a high value on work and is deeply interested in our work, our performance on the job and our relationships with our co-workers. We recognize that both our work and the way we relate to people in the workplace are of great importance to God. So it is our mission: *“To represent Christ in the airlines through meaningful relationships and quality work.”*

FCAP’s two-fold purpose encourages people *to know and experience God’s presence with them at work* and *to trust Him for the enabling strength in the responsibilities and challenges of work*. We see authentic ministry in the workplace as a result of our displaying this relationship to our Lord within the sphere of our influence at work, without being coercive or self-serving.

## Values:

- We value doing our work wholeheartedly as unto the Lord, knowing we represent Christ by the quality of our performance while on the job (Ephesians 6:6).
- We value intentionally engaging our faith in the workplace by expressing it in both deeds and words (1 Timothy 6:17-19).
- We value influencing the people around us by creatively building relationship with them and looking out for their interest just as we do our own.
- We value connecting the church in the workplace by seeking out other Christians, to mutually show our love for one another and our care for the people God has placed around us (John 13:35).

## Making Your Connection:

Like the airline industry is all about making connections, so FCAP is all about Christians making their connection in the workplace in three basic ways:

- Connecting God’s purposes in the details of your work.
- Connecting ministry to God working through you to influence the people and circumstances of work.
- Connecting the church in the workplace in unique and creative ways, in order to extend and strengthen its influence.

- WE OFFER:**
- Training that helps Christians integrate the Christian faith into the everyday details of our work and its challenges.
  - Free publications and weekly thoughts that offer encouragement, gives focus, and provides information.
  - Support and fellowship through local groups, prayer network, training sessions, special events and conferences.



## The Fellowship of Christian Airline Personnel

The ministry of FCAP is carried on by everyday ordinary people throughout the airline workplaces of the world who go to work with an extraordinary calling. The FCAP ministry does not focus on specialized people, nor are we a special interest group focusing on certain issues. We do not have a membership nor are we a club with dues. Rather, FCAP is a fellowship of Christians who identify with one another through a common focus and purpose. And we desire to demonstrate how our faith in Jesus Christ can influence the people and circumstances of our workplace. We are blessed to have both airline and non-airline people who encourage and support this ministry.

## Your Next Step:

Check on the FCAP website to see if there is a group in your area, or seek out and connect with other Christians at your workplace. Contact us at the international office for further assistance or click on [“Connect With Us”](#) on the website.



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OVER TWO MILLION AIRLINE EMPLOYEES IN THE WORLD